

WALNUT VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

**LEXINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS VISIT
SEPTEMBER 29-30, 2016**

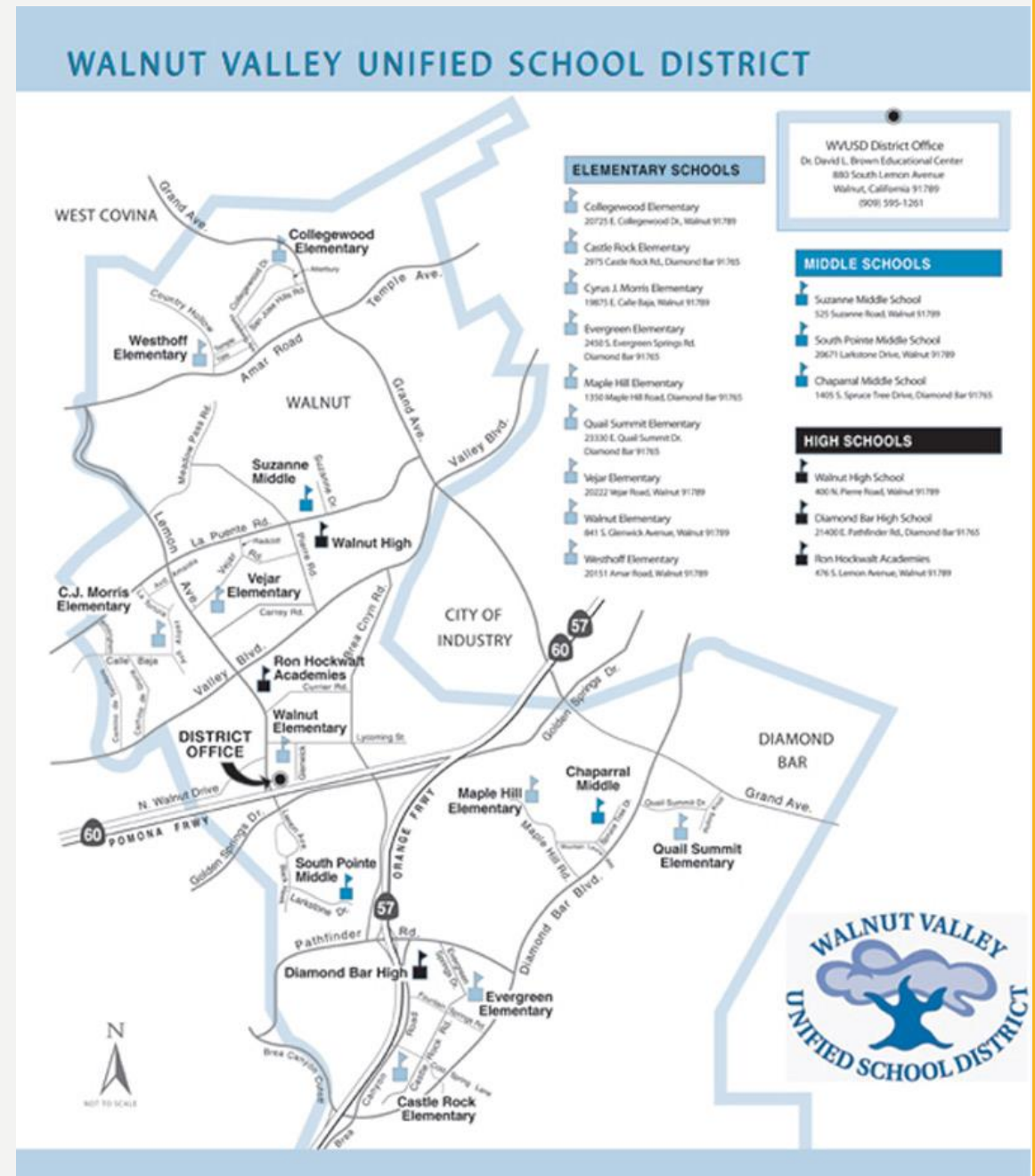
VISITING DELEGATION

- Dr. Robert Taylor – Superintendent
- Helen Hall – Board of Trustees
- Cecilia Yeh – Parent Volunteer



WVUSD AT A GLANCE

- 14,503 K-12 students enrolled
- 5 member Board of Trustees
- \$138M annual operating budget
- Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF)
- \$8M in monthly payroll (\$46k - \$103k teacher salaries)
- 689 classroom teachers, over 60% with Masters degrees or higher
- 1.2M square feet of classrooms
- 15 sites covering 210 acres
- 975,000 meals served annually
- 194,000 yearly bus miles



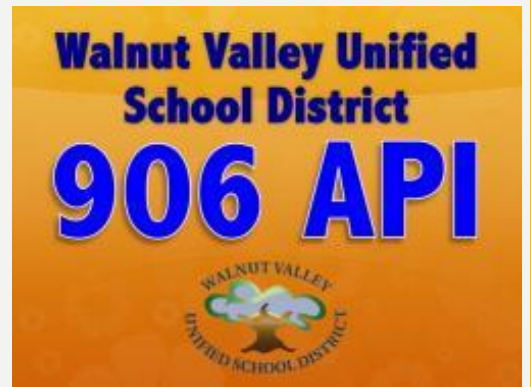
DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Total Student Population: 14594

- Hispanic/Latino: 2409 17%
- Black/African-American: 417 3%
- White: 1926 13%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 8857 61%
- English Learners: 1663 11%
- Special Education: 1515 10%
- Free/Reduced Lunch: 1468 10%

STATE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

- Walnut Valley ranks 1st in So. Cal. and 6th in California in the 2015 “Best School Districts for Your Buck” report by NerdWallet for affordable home prices, standardized test scores, college readiness, and class size
- Walnut Valley ranked #14 in the “Best Public School Districts in California”
- Walnut Valley ranked #149 in the United States
- Walnut High made IB history as the only school in the state to offer IBCC with the Project Lead the Way Biomedical Science program as its career-related component
- South Pointe Middle School designated as a state and national 2016 School to Watch



- Seven WVUSD elementary schools have been named finalists in the California 2016 Gold Ribbon Schools Awards Program
- Thirty-eight Diamond Bar and Walnut High School seniors named Semifinalists in the 2016 National Merit Scholarship Program, representing the top 1% of U.S. high school seniors in each state
- WVUSD's nine elementary schools rank in top 150 in state, three middle schools in top 26, and both high schools in top 100 in Niche's "2016 Best K-12 Schools" report
- Walnut High School garners national recognition as 2016 Grammy Signature School Semifinalist by Grammy Foundation
- Diamond Bar High School named 2014 National Grammy Signature School, becoming the first high school in California to receive the prestigious honor
- Suzanne Middle School students qualify for the 2016 State MATHCOUNTS championship
- Four National Blue Ribbon Schools and thirteen California Distinguished Schools



- Diamond Bar High School Math Team wins national 2016 Math Madness championship
- All WVUSD middle and high schools advance to Science Olympiad state finals
- Diamond Bar High music director Steve Acciani named 2015 Music Educator Finalist by Grammy Foundation
- Walnut High School music director Buddy Clements named a 2015 Music Educator Semifinalist
- Evergreen Elementary School is one of three schools in the state to receive the 2015 Civic Learning Award of Excellence
- Chaparral, South Pointe, and Suzanne Middle Schools receive California 2015 Gold Ribbon awards
- All three middle schools honored for Exemplary Arts Education programs

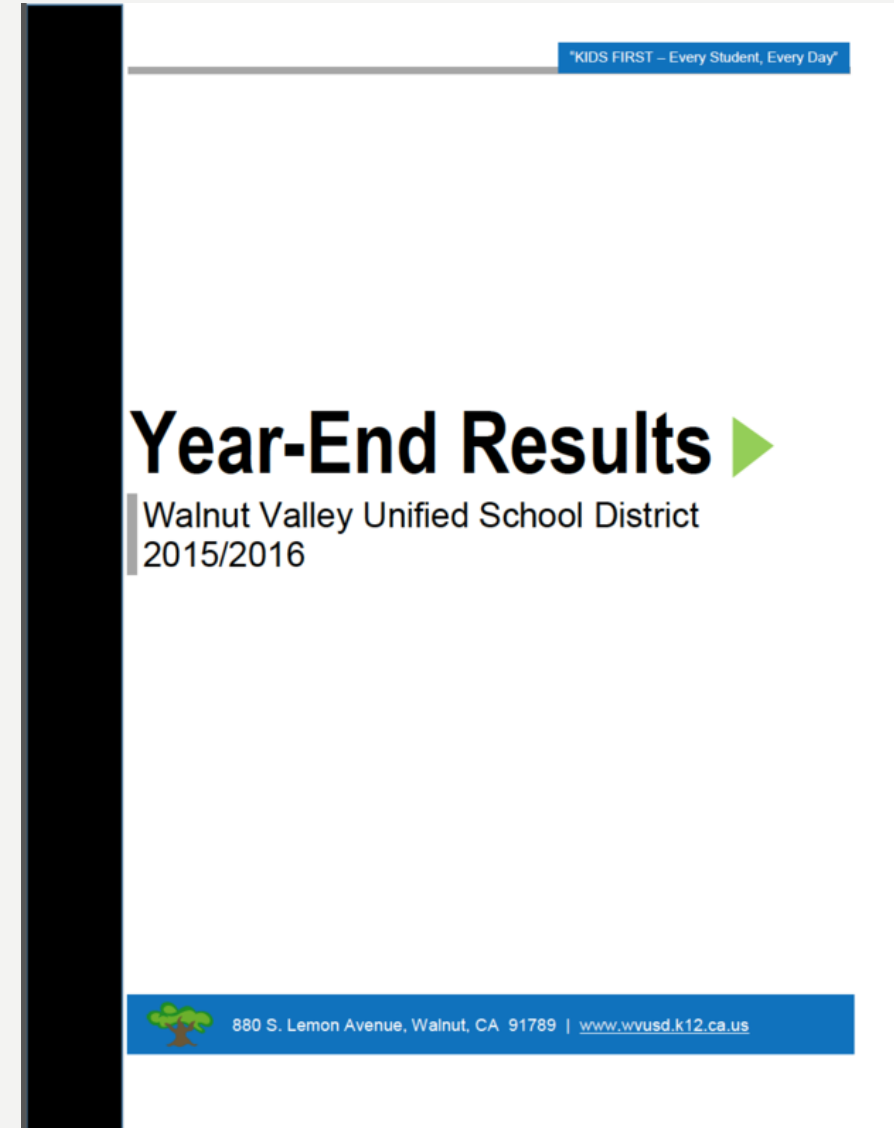


- Diamond Bar and Walnut High Schools make Newsweek's "America's Top 500 High Schools 2015" listing out of 30,000 public high schools, for having highest performance on state tests and preparing students for college (both ranked among top 20 in California)
- U.S. News & World 2015 Report lists Diamond Bar and Walnut High Schools among the best schools in the state and the nation (out of more than 29,000 public high schools)
- Diamond Bar High Symphony Orchestra wins 1st place at the 2015 National School Orchestra Finals at New York's Lincoln Center
- Walnut High Publications garners the 2015 Super Sweepstakes award at the Journalism Write-offs Competition
- Diamond Bar and Walnut High Schools named in America's Most Challenging High Schools rankings by the Washington Post
- Walnut Valley was named to the College Board's 2013 AP District Honor Roll



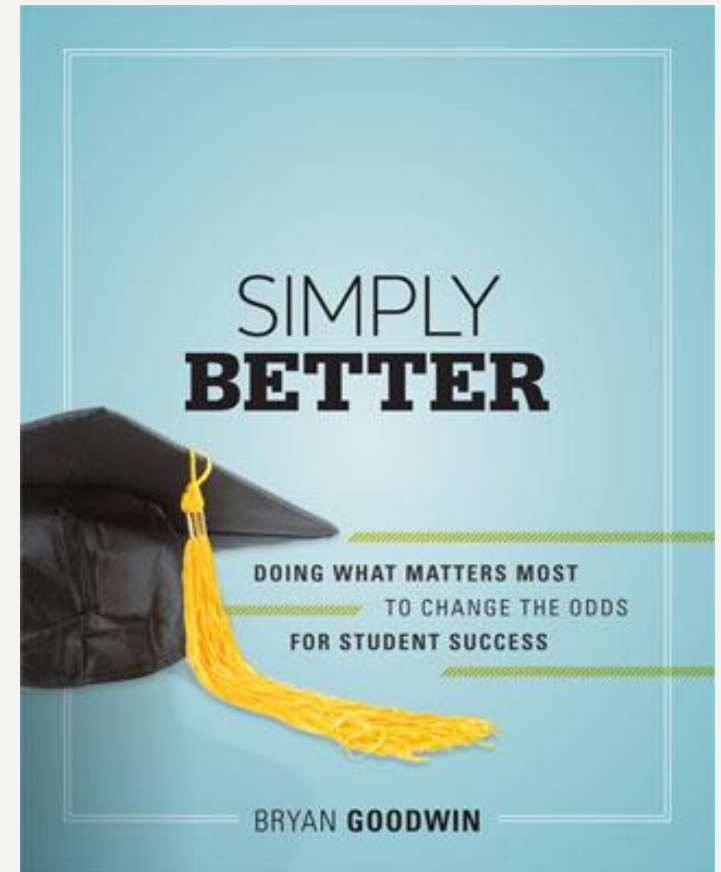
90 DAY LISTENING CAMPAIGN

- 90 people First 90 Days
- “Kids First...Every Student Every Day”
- 4 Areas of Focus
 - **Strengthening Relationships**
 - Student Achievement
 - Fiscal Stability
 - Leadership Development
- Year-End Results book



DIVERSITY THINK TANK

- *Simply Better: Doing What Matters Most To Change the Odds For Student Success* (Goodwin)
- *A Mind Shaped By Poverty: 10 Things That Educators Should Know* (Rawlinson)
- *If She Only Knew Me* (Gray and Thomas)
- *Education's Coconut Cake Problem* (Cook) / Roland Fryer (Harvard)
- Perspective - *Visual Explorer* cards
- Tell your story:
 1. Where Were You Born
 2. Birth Order
 3. Greatest Challenge Growing Up
- Cultural norms, traditions, beliefs
- Challenges
- Conferences
- Recommendations



ORGANIZATION OF PARENT VOLUNTEER GROUPS / THE EVOLUTION OF WALNUT VALLEY

- Dr. Ron Hockwalt – Early 1990s, Influx of Chinese
 - “How can we get Asian parents involved?”
 - Identified Key Leaders in the community (Mary Su)
 - Started Parent Advisory Group made up of diverse parents to address issues and share experiences
 - Wanted to “bring in” ethnic-based groups that were forming in the community
 - Diversity Think Tank
 - Magnificent 7
 - Recognized staff make-up did not reflect community (Educate staff)

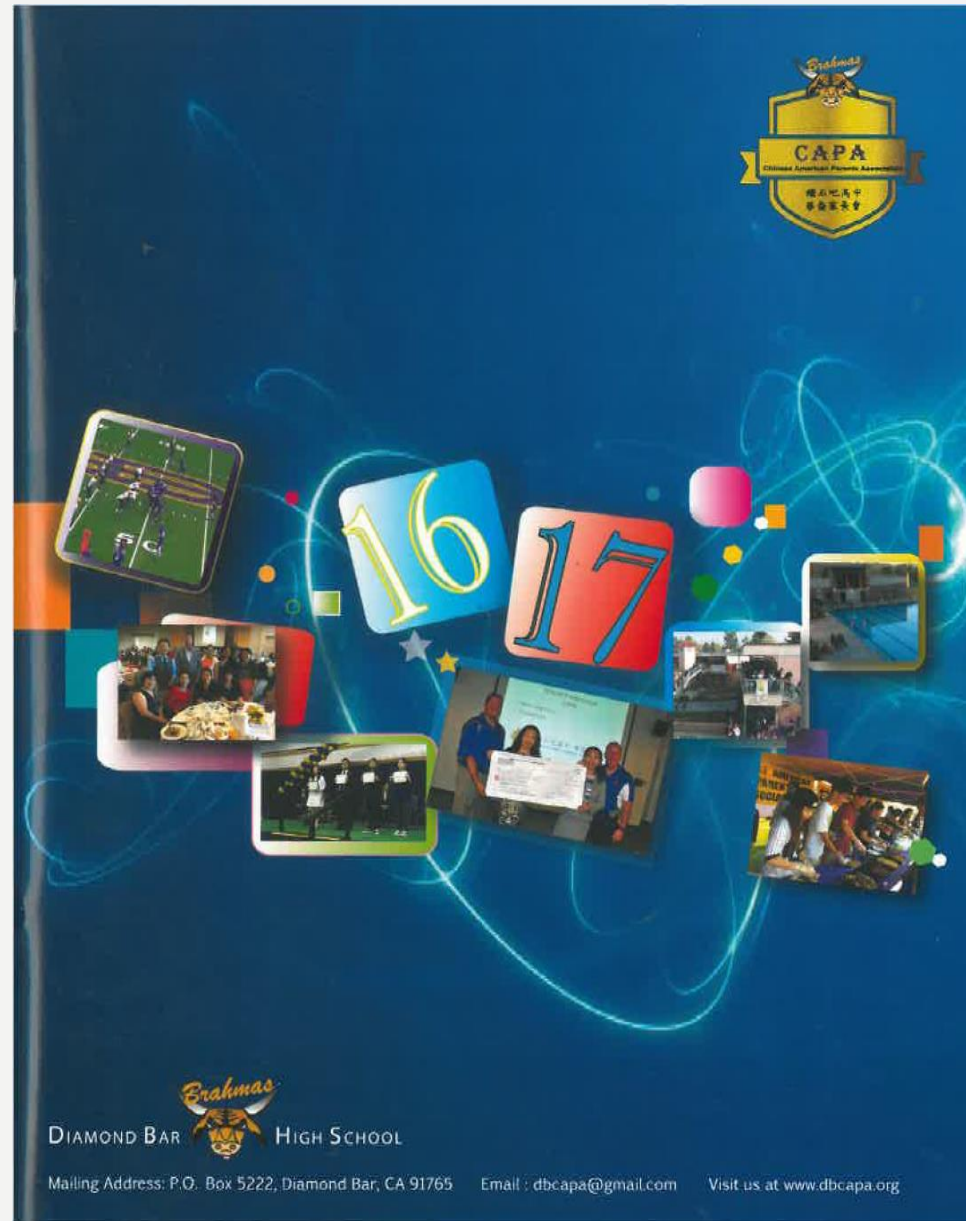


MAGNIFICENT 7 (DBHS)



1. Brahma Boosters – one centralized booster group (eliminated competition, repetitiveness, etc.)
2. Brahma Foundation - a non profit 501(c)(3) foundation to raise funds for capital improvements and supplemental education programs at Diamond Bar High School
3. **CAPA (Chinese American Parents Association)** – see program and highlight pages
4. KAPA (Korean American Parents Association)
5. HOPE (Hispanic Organization for Parents and Education)
6. CAAP (Council of African American Parents) (website)
7. SAPA (South Asian Parent Association) (An Evening of Colors)

CAPA





Council of African American Parents

Our mission to enhance the educational opportunities of students through academics, social activities and cultural awareness remain at the forefront of our organizational agenda. Our menu of services for scholars and parents is reflected in our ability to develop and implement programming that supports our mission.

<http://www.councilofafricanamericanparents.org/>

CELEBRATIONS, AWARENESS, APPRECIATION...

- Parents at Registration (recruitment, “1 on 1” with GLC, etc.)
- Paul Kanarek, The Princeton Review, Making College “the right fit”
- Brandon Busteed, The Gallup Organization
- SAPA’s *Evening of Colors*
- Chinese New Year
- Westhoff Cultural Fair
- DBHS *Rodeo Round-Up*
- Superintendent's Student Advisory Council



IT'S NOT WHERE YOU GO...

**No Difference
in Workplace
Engagement or
Well-being of
Graduates
Between:**

Public vs. private non-profits

Highly selective institutions and rest

Top 100 ranked schools in *US News & World Report* and rest

PARENT ORGANIZATIONS

- Community Clubs
- Coordinating Council (Leadership / Business)
- CAPA of Walnut Valley
- (CAAW) Chinese American Association of Walnut
- ELAC – English Learner Advisory Committee
- DELAC – District English Learner Advisory Committee
- Middle School CAPA
- Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)
- DLI Parent Advisory Council
- Interviews / Hiring
- Paul Kanarek, The Princeton Review, Making College “the right fit”



IMPLEMENTING THE NEW CALIFORNIA STATE STANDARDS

- Awareness, Transition, Implementation
- Parent and Community Information Meetings
 - 4 languages
- School Visits
 - Background of Common Core
 - Classroom Observations
 - Debrief over Lunch
 - Classroom Observations
 - Debrief
- Resources (textbooks)
- WVEA





TRAINING OF STAFF ON CULTURAL ISSUES

Anti – Defamation League (ADL)

150 employees per year

WVEA

CSEA

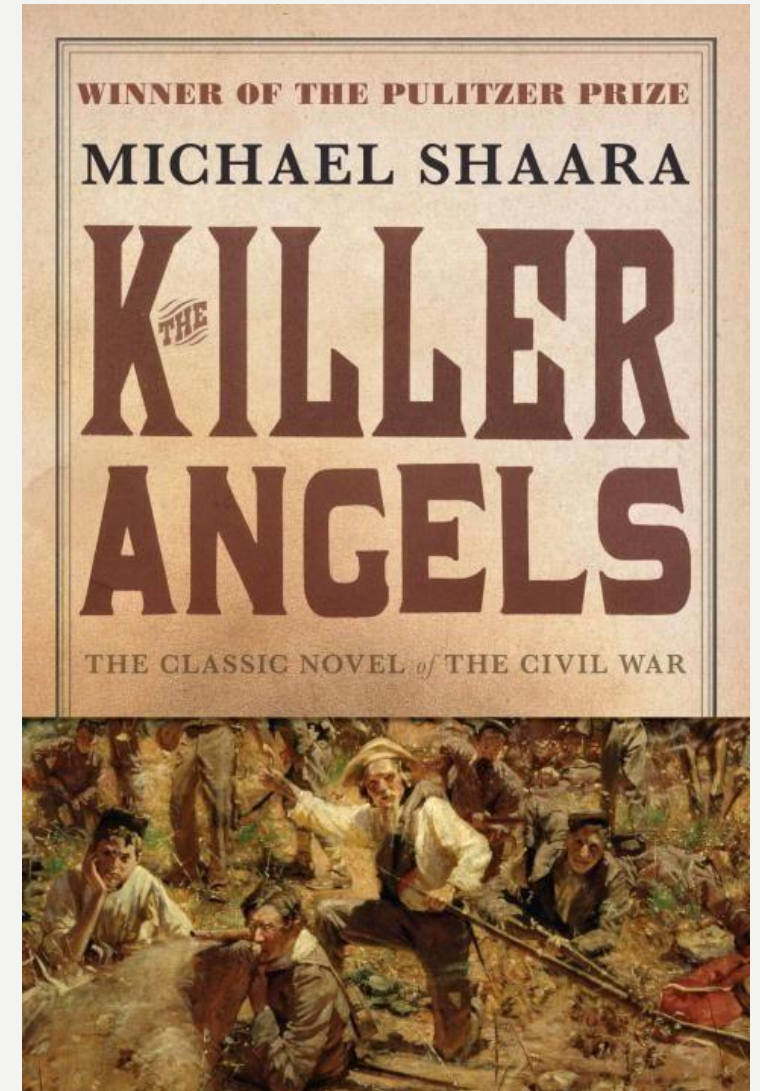
WVAA

Parents

Student Forums

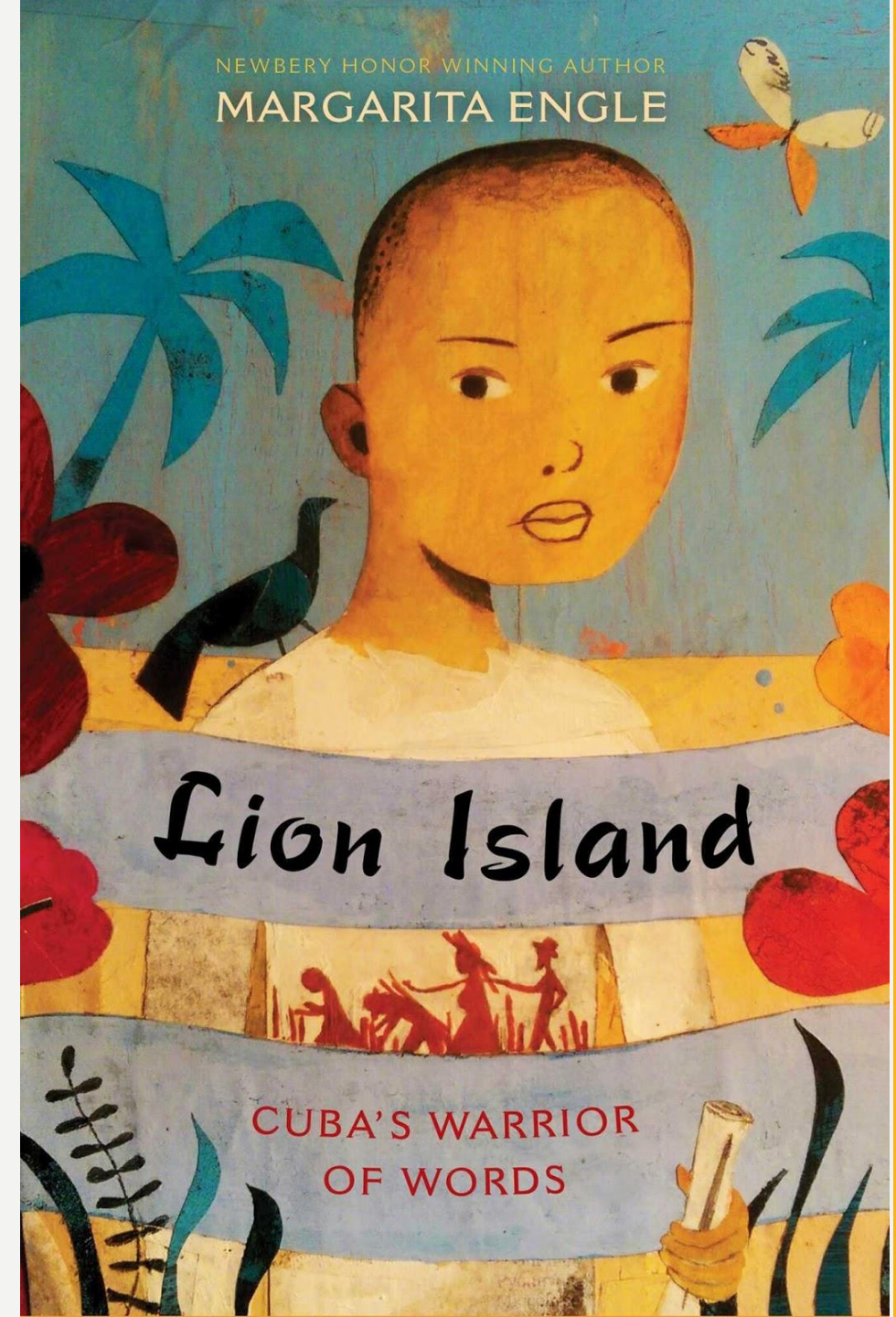
WALNUT VALLEY LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

- 40 staff members per year (“Leadership at all levels of the organization”)
- Monthly “all-day” meetings
- *Leadership in 4 Directions*
- Values-Based Leadership
- *Leadership is an Art (De Pree)*
- *True North (George)*
- *The 5 Dysfunctions of a Team (Collins)*
- Distinguished Speakers’ Series
- ***Gettysburg Experience***



STRATEGIES FOR INTRODUCING TOPICS ON CURRICULA THAT REFLECT THE ETHNIC MAKEUP OF THE STUDENT POPULATION

- Imagine Learning (language and literacy skills)
- PYP / IB (Global Diversity focus) (sample IB Planners)
- Chinese-American Author Fair, Middle School Summits, High School Unity Forums
- Dual Language Immersion – Chinese texts
- Secondary Mandarin language courses
- Textbooks have to be culturally diverse to receive state approval (parents part of process)
- Supplemental reading in school libraries target cultural needs
- WVUSD graduates as teachers
- Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
- Whole Child – 4 As
 - *Academic*
 - *Arts*
 - *Activities*
 - *Athletics*
 - *(Access)*
- Chinese Private Schools on WVUSD campuses (1st – 8th grade) (1,000 students)



SOCIO-EMOTIONAL TASKFORCE

- Recognition that many students are emotionally overwhelmed with life, school, and pressure that may be associated with the highest performing students in our schools
- There is a need to better communicate the type of supports that are available for students, parents, and staff
- Members emphasized the data-supported strength of the Primary Intervention Program (PIP)
- DBHS Wellness Center has been awarded with a 2016 InspirEd Award, (Facebook and Yale University have collaborated to identify those programs that best support student social and emotional learning.)



➤ *Young children who exhibit healthy social, emotional, and behavioral adjustment are more likely to have good academic performance in elementary school (Cohen and others 2005; Zero to Three 2004).*



What is SEL ?

- Social and emotional learning (SEL) is the process through which children and adults acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.





"Empower Student Wellness From Within"

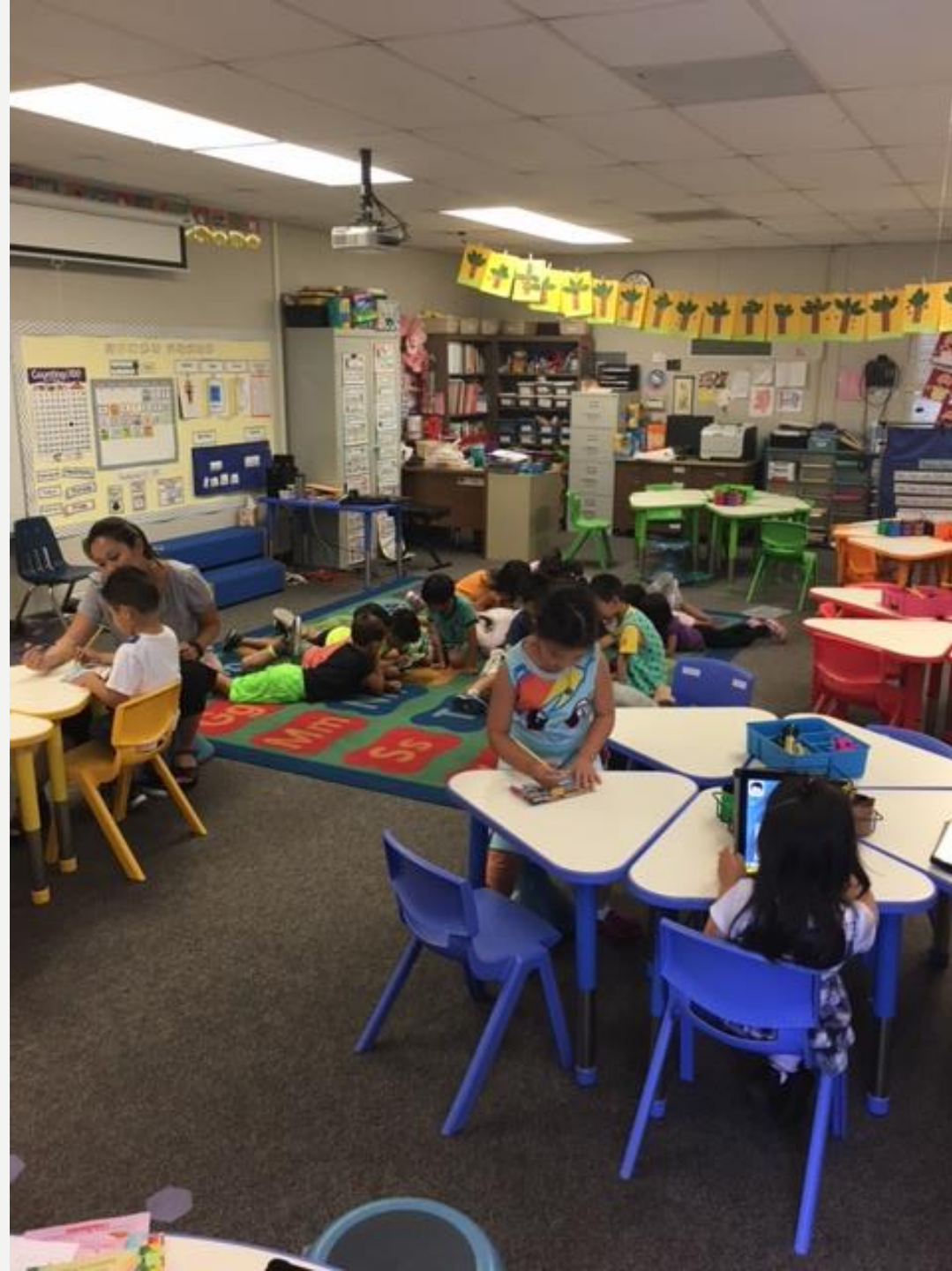
Diamond Bar High School Wellness staff is committed to:

- Provide wellness education and resources
- Train peer counselors who can assist students in a supportive environment
- Empower students to develop healthy strategies for personal management
- Improve school climate and promote academic success



DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION (DLI)

- Walnut Elementary School
- K-5...middle...high school
- Only Full-Time Kinder in District
- 50/50 model (50% “heritage” Mandarin; 50% non-Mandarin)
- ½ English; ½ Mandarin (instruction)
- K-3 “Better Chinese”; 4-5 “MeiZhou”
- DLI outperformed General Ed students on SBAC
- Quality of teachers (BCLAD)
- Aligning WVUSD DLI to ACTFL WORLD-READINESS STANDARDS FOR LEARNING LANGUAGES (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages)
- Middle School = 2 classes (elective / social studies / 7 period day)
- Parent Advisory Group



MANAGEMENT OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER PROGRAM

- 1663 ELL (11%); 500 + increase in last 5 years
- Categorical Director (fiscal – Title III; assessments, data, curriculum and instruction, regulations); TOSA; Site-based staff
- Assessment Center at D.O. (connect family with site ELD liaison)
- Structured English Immersion (SEI) Program – 2nd-5th grade; new to country; language and culture emphasis; mainstream math, PE, music)
- DLI (BCLAD); all teachers CLAD

Reclassification:

1. CELDT
2. Basic Skills (local benchmarks and/or state assessment in L/A)
3. Grades / teacher recommendation
4. Parent input



ENROLLMENT

- Declining Enrollment in Los Angeles
- 10 year WV enrollment
- Class size
- Access (AP Courses, IB / PYP)
- District of Choice
- Whole Child
- Elementary Music
- Elementary PE
- DLI
- College-going Rates
- Graduation Rates
- Parent Involvement



STRATEGIES ASSOCIATED WITH HIRING AND RETAINING TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF MEMBERS WHO ARE SENSITIVE TO THE RACIAL MAKEUP OF THE STUDENT BODY

- WVUSD Graduates
- Professional Development
- Leadership Team
- Principals



EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH CHINA

- Overview of *Dedicated 2 Learning (D2L)*
- Shanghai teacher exchange (8 years ago)
 - 10-12 teachers from Shanghai to Walnut for 1 month
 - WV sends 10-15 teachers and administrators to China each year
 - 3 middle school teachers exchange with China for 1 semester
- WVUSD Staff hosting Chinese Principals
- Sister schools
- Chinese students to Walnut Valley
 - Winter camp (200 students, 2-3 weeks around Chinese New Year in January)
 - Summer camp (500 students for 1 month in Summer School)
 - \$50 per day per camper
- I-20s (9th – 11th)



STUDENT SESSION

- Superintendent's Student Advisory Council
- Student Representatives to the Board of Trustees
- Multicultural assembly: Students from a variety of cultural backgrounds perform cultural dances during an all student assembly.
- Student are encouraged to join clubs that will teach them about different walks of life
- Social Media is used to highlight student success
- Band, Choir and Drama highlight different cultures on campus during instruction and performances
- ASB represents all of our different ethnic groups and celebrates our different cultures through weekly announcements
- Our video production class highlights our different student and cultural groups through our weekly “ Mustang Update”
- Our Publication class highlights different cultural groups Monthly through the year
- Paul Kanarek, The Princeton Review, Making College “the right fit”

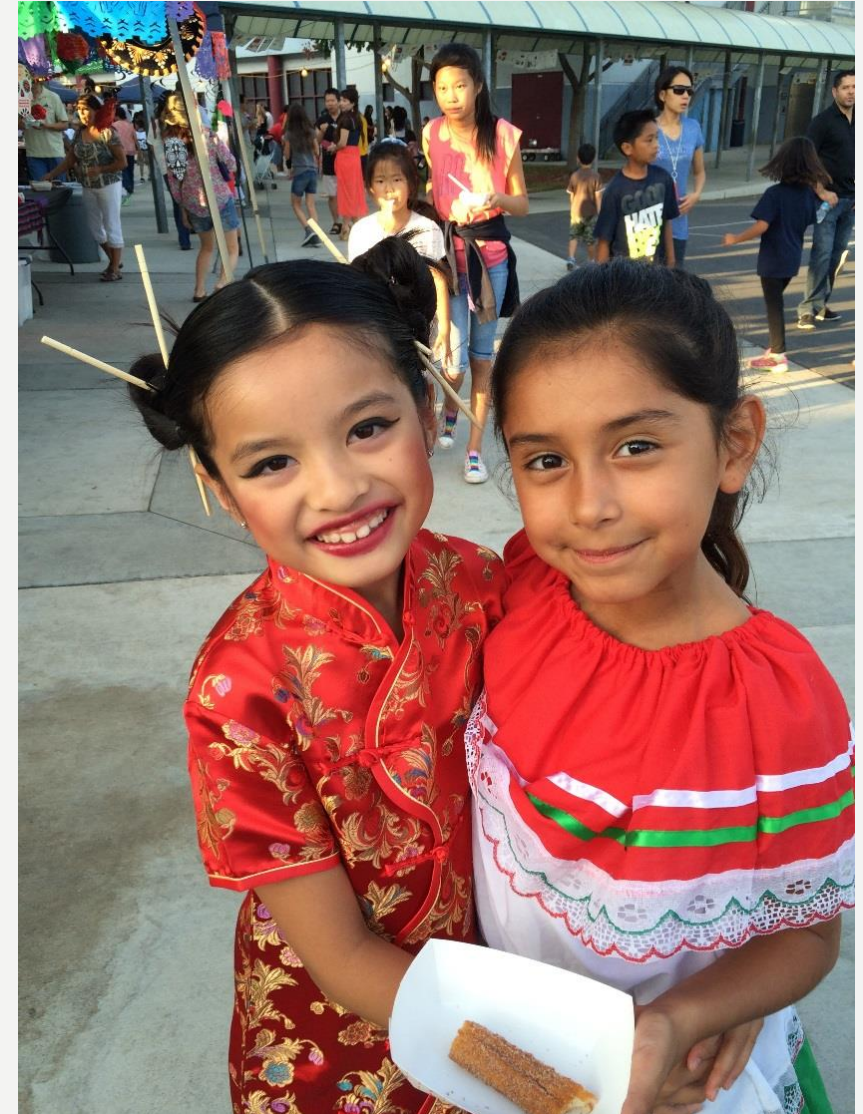


COMMUNITY FORUM



STRATEGIES TO FOSTER INCLUSION

- Translator services (documents, meetings, parent conferences, etc.)
- **“1 on 1”** meetings with Grade Level Coordinators
- Diversity Think Tank
- Dual Language Immersion (DLI)
- Exchange program with China
- Sheltered English Immersion (SEI) Center
- Primary Language Lab



QUESTIONS, COMMENTS...

